

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the consideration given the present application. Claims 3, 10, and 14-26 are pending, of which claims 3, 10, 21, 23, and 25 are independent.

Applicants have temporarily designated claims 3 and 21-26 to include "withdrawn" and respectfully request the restriction requirement be reconsidered and withdrawn. This application is the U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/15208, and Applicant invites attention to MPEP Section 1800 and 37 CFR 1.475, inasmuch as PCT procedures set forth in the MPEP are more germane to this application. The PTO rule [37 CFR 1.475(a)] states:

"(a) An international and a national stage application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept ("requirement of unity of invention")." (Emphasis supplied).

Applicants submit that all claims are in accordance with 37 CFR 1.475. The IPER made no objection based on unity of invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully solicited.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of all of the rejections are respectfully requested. The application is in condition for allowance, and such Notice is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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